

Industry
Profiles
2017

Agricultural
Industry

Alberta
Government

OVERVIEW

The Agricultural industry¹ in Alberta includes a variety of establishments or services:

- Crop production: farms, orchards, greenhouses, nurseries and other places that grow crops seeds (excluding forestry products);
- Animal production and aquaculture: ranches, farms, feedlots and other places that raise animals, produce animal products or fatten animals;
- Fishing, hunting, and trapping activities: catching fish and other wild animals;
- Agricultural support services for crop production and animal production.

Section A: Business Environment
1. 2016 Employment and Unemployment Numbers and Rates
2. Industry's Growth
3. Facts, Trends and Outlook
4. Size of Businesses in Alberta and the Industry
Section B: Human Resources Profile
1. Occupational Information
2. Demographics: Gender and Age
3. Wages and Salaries
Section C: Additional Information
Links to Industry Associations

¹ North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) 2007 groups 111, 112, 114, 1151 and 1152, not including support activities for forestry 1153.

SECTION A

BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

1. 2016 Employment and Unemployment Numbers and Rates

Table 1

	Alberta	Agricultural Industry
Employment	2,263,800	50,800
Employment Share	N/A	2.2%
Unemployment	200,800	N/A
Unemployment rate	8.1%	N/A

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, CANSIM Table 282-0008, 2016

Note: Note: N/A denotes not-applicable. Employment share is obtained by dividing the number of employment in this industry by total employment in Alberta.

For more information on employment numbers or for a historical comparison, please go to the Labour Force Statistics² website or Statistics Canada³.

2. Industry's Growth

- The Agricultural industry accounted for 2.2% of total employment in Alberta in 2016.
- Employment in this industry is expected to decrease at an average rate of -0.1% from 2016 to 2019⁴.
- The industry is expected to account for 2.6% of total employment in Alberta in 2017.

For more information, see the Alberta Learning Information Service (ALIS)⁵ website for descriptions of industries.

² See <http://work.alberta.ca/labour/labour-force-statistics-and-annual-reviews.html>

³ See <http://www.statcan.gc.ca>

⁴ Alberta Modified Canadian Occupational Projection System (COPS) Outlook 2016 – 2019, Industry Employment Outlook

⁵ See <http://www.alis.alberta.ca>

3. Facts, Trends and Outlook

According to Statistics Canada's National Economic Accounts, the Agricultural industry accounted for approximately 1.2%⁶ of Alberta's Gross Domestic Product in 2015, down from 1.4% in 2005. Its contribution to Alberta's total employment declined from 2.7% in 2006 to 2.2% in 2016.

Total employment (the total number of employees and self-employed people, 15 years and over) in 2016 was 23.6% lower than its level in 2015. Over the last 10 years, employment decreased by 1,600 from 2006, a 3.1% decrease. There were 50,800 employed in the industry in 2016, of whom 84.8% were full time and 15.4% were part time.

Table 2

Characteristic	Alberta	Agriculture
Median Retirement Age (years) [2015]	63.3	68.6
Average Number of Hours Worked per Week	36.2	44.7
Multiple Jobholders (% of total employment)	5.9%	3.3%
Average Job Tenure (months)	90.2	253.4
Employees Under Union Coverage (%)	20.8%	N/A
Employees Working Overtime per Week (%)	17.1%	N/A

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, CANSIM Tables 282-0022, 282-0031, 282-0042, 282-0078 and 282-0084, 2016, and custom tabulation (median retirement age)

Note: The percentage of multiple jobholders is obtained by dividing the number of multiple jobholders by total employment. This calculation method also applies to the percentage of employees under union coverage and the percentage of employees working overtime per week.

⁶ This is for North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) 2007 code 11: Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting which includes support activities for forestry 1153.

4. Size of Businesses in Alberta and the Industry

Table 3

Establishment Size	Businesses in Alberta		Business in Agriculture	
	Number of Employees	%*	Number of Employees	%*
Less than 20 employees	673,000	35.6%	10,200	70.8%
20 to 99 employees	671,400	35.5%	3,800	26.3%
100 to 500 employees	346,900	18.3%	N/A	N/A
More than 500 employees	199,800	11.0%	N/A	N/A

Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, CANSIM Table 282-0076, 2016

* Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding

Note: N/A denotes data not available due to the confidentiality requirements of the Statistics Act

Note: Statistics Canada's survey methodology for determining establishment size differs from the one it uses in the Labour Force Survey to determine total employment. As a result, the total number of employees by establishment size will not be the same as total employment in the industry, except by coincidence.

SECTION B

HUMAN RESOURCES PROFILE

1. Occupational Information

Some examples of occupations in the Agricultural industry include:

- farm worker;
- dairy producer;
- greenhouse operator;
- animal care attendant; and
- beekeeper.

For a complete listing of all occupations related to this industry, as well as detailed information on education and skill requirements, visit the Alberta Occupational Profiles⁷ website.

2. Demographics: Gender and Age

According to the Labour Force Survey, the gender breakdown in the Agricultural industry in 2016 was as follows:

- women employed: 12,500 people, or 24.6%
- men employed: 38,400 people, or 75.6%

Overall in Alberta, women accounted for 45.5% and men made up 54.5% of total employment (for all industries).

Table 4

Age Characteristics	Employment in Alberta		Employment in Agriculture	
	Number	%*	Number	%*
15-24 years	303,200	13.4%	6,400	12.6%
25-54 years	1,536,000	67.9%	22,900	45.1%
55 years and over	424,600	18.8%	21,500	42.3%

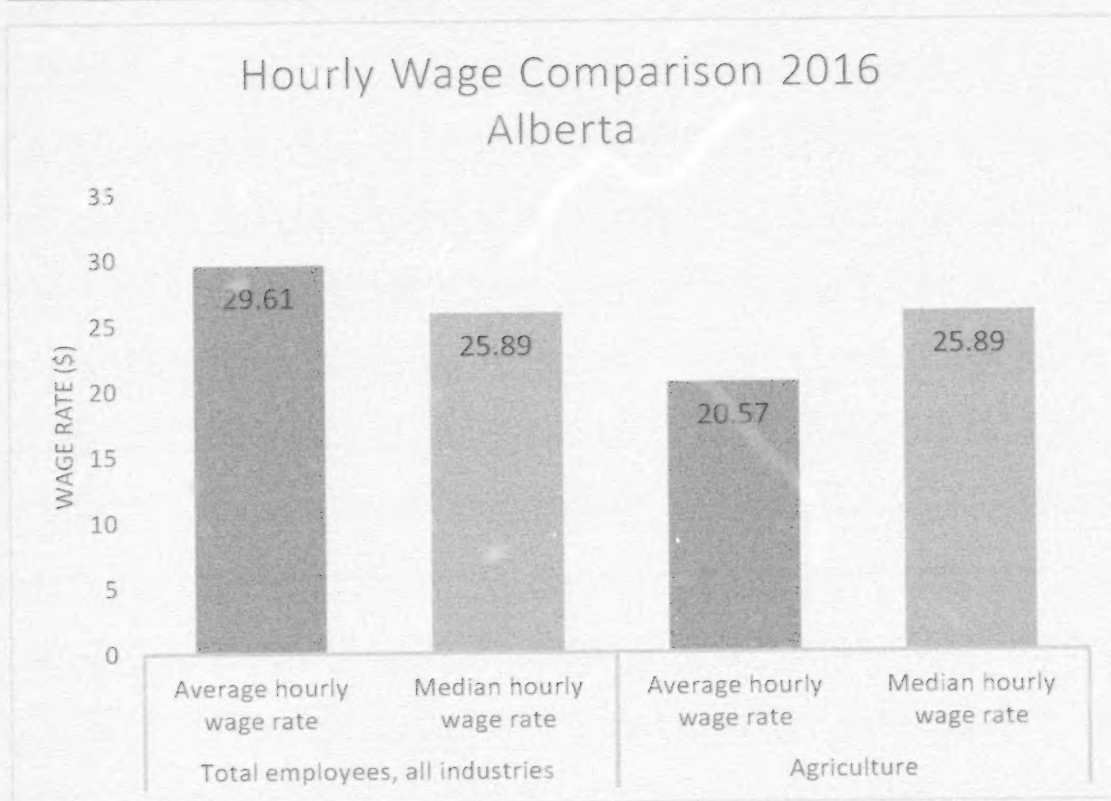
Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, CANSIM Table 282-0008, 2016

*Percentages may not add up 100 due to rounding.

⁷ See <http://occinfo.alis.alberta.ca/occinfopreview>

3. Wages and Salaries

Chart 1



Data Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey, CANSIM Table 282-0072, 2016

Note: The average hourly wage is obtained by dividing the sum of the wages of all the employees by the total number of employees. The median hourly wage is that wage below which half the employees earn and above which half the employees earn.

Wage and Salary Information for Selected Occupations

Table 5

Occupation	Average Hourly Wage			Average Annual Salary
	Starting	Overall	Top	
General farm worker	\$17.09	\$20.15	\$23.51	\$40,969
Farmer and farm manager (dairy producer)	\$24.47	\$33.60	\$45.98	\$76,595
Farm supervisor and specialized livestock worker (swine technician)	\$17.52	\$20.50	\$23.56	\$46,526

Data Source: 2015 Alberta Wage and Salary Survey

For more information on the *2015 Alberta Wage and Salary Survey*, refer to the WAGEinfo⁸ website. For job descriptions, duties, skills and educational requirements of specific occupations in the Agricultural industry, visit the ALIS⁹ website.

⁸ See <http://www.alis.alberta.ca/wageinfo>

⁹ See <http://www.alis.alberta.ca>

SECTION C

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Links to Industry Associations

- Alberta Agricultural Economics Association
(<http://aaea.ualberta.ca>)
- Alberta Barley Commission
(<http://www.albertabarley.com>)
- Alberta Chicken Producers
(<http://www.chicken.ab.ca>)
- Alberta Livestock and Meat Agency Ltd.
(<http://alma.alberta.ca/>)
- Alberta Milk Producers
(<http://www.albertamilk.com>)
- Agriculture and Food Council
(<http://www.agfoodcouncil.com>)
- Alberta Pork
(<http://www.albertapork.com>)
- Alberta Farm Fresh Producers Association
(<http://www.albertafarmfresh.com>)
- G3 Canada Limited
(<http://www.g3.ca>)

Call us or visit our website for more information or to find the following publications:

- 2016 Annual Alberta Labour Market Review
- Monthly Alberta Labour Force Statistics Highlights and Packages
- Alberta's Occupational Demand and Supply Outlook
- Alberta Labour Force Profiles
- Alberta Industry Profiles

www.work.alberta.ca/labour.html (see Labour Market Information)

In Edmonton: 780.422.4266

Long distance: 1.800.661.3753

© 2017 Government of Alberta.

Published: March 2017.

ISBN 978-1-4601-3326-2

ISSN 2292-8871